

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

**Kris Edward Hansen**

Atty. Docket: 005230.00007

Examiner: TBA

Group Art Unit: TBA

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filed: December 8, 2003

Continuation of Serial No. 09/998,239

Filed: December 3, 2001

For: Method, System And Apparatus For Guiding And Supporting An  
Elongated Flexible Member

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) Applicant submits herewith the references cited on the attached PTO form 1449.

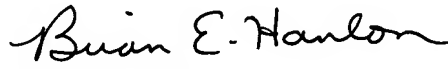
Copies of these references are not submitted herewith, but can be found in parent application file U.S. Serial No. 09/998,239.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider these references in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.104.

It is believed that no fee is required to ensure consideration of the cited references by the Examiner. However, if a fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 8, 2003  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	TBA
Filing Date	December 8, 2003
First Named Inventor	Kris Edward Hansen
Group Art Unit	TBA
Examiner Name	TBA
Attorney Docket Number	005230.00007

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-3,815,855	06-11-1974	Appleton	
		US- 3,848,839	11-19-1974	Tillman	
		US- 4,128,220	12-05-1978	McNeel	
		US- 4,300,738	11-17-1981	Whinfrey	
		US- 4,442,994	04-17-1984	Logsdon	
		US- 5,377,940	01-03-1995	Cabe et al.	
		US- 5,739,474	04-14-1998	Bradley	
		US- 5,961,081	10-05-1999	Rinderer	
		US- 6,073,891	06-13-2000	Humber	
		US- 6,032,907	03-07-2000	Santa Cruz et al.	
		US- 4,011,397	03-8-1977	Bouche	
		US- 2,310,622	02-09-1943	Ellinwood	
		US- 6,164,604	12-26-2000	Cirino et al.	
		US- 5,950,970	09-14-1999	Methany et al	
		US- 5,873,522	02-23-1999	Roberts	
		US- 2,409,772	10-22-1946	Lund	
		US- 2,408,572	10-1-1946	Morehouse	
		US- 4,260,123	04-07-1981	Ismert	
		US- 5,007,605	04-16-1991	Horvath	
		US-5,261,633	11-16-1993	Mastro	
		US-6,135,398	10-24-2000	Quesnel	
		US-4,248,459	02-03-1981	Pate et al.	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		GB 2124289	02-15-1984	Hawes		

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark